

CDC Specimen-Collection Protocol for a Chemical-Exposure Event

For detailed instructions see CDC's *Shipping Instructions for Specimens Collected from People Who May Have Been Exposed to Chemical-Terrorism Agents*.

Collect blood and urine samples for each person involved in the chemical-exposure event.

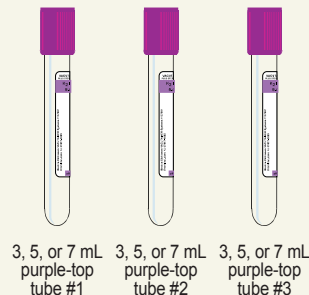
Note: For children, collect only urine samples unless otherwise directed by CDC.

Blood-Sample Collection

For each person, collect blood in glass tubes in the following order: 1st: collect three (3) purple-top (EDTA) glass tubes; 2nd: collect one (1) gray- or green-top glass tube. Collect the specimens by following the steps below.

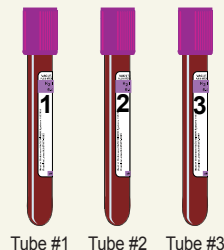
1 Collect three (3) purple-top glass tubes of blood.

Do not use gel separators or plastic tubes.



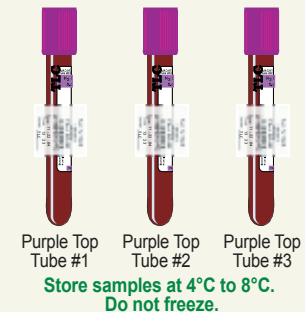
2 Mix contents of the tubes by inverting them 5 or 6 times.

Label tubes in order of collection. #1, #2, #3

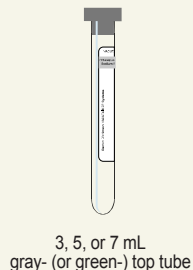


If collecting specimens in 3 mL purple-top tubes, use four tubes.
Collect a minimum of 12 mL of blood.

3 Place bar-coded labels on each tubes, so that when the tubes are standing upright, the barcode looks like a ladder.



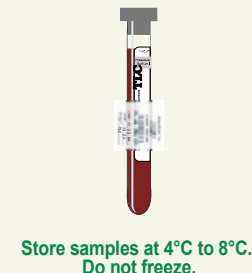
1 After collecting samples in the purple-top tubes, collect one (1) blood sample in a gray- or green-top tube (gray-top tube shown). Do not use gel separators or plastic tubes.



2 Mix contents of the tube by inverting it 5 or 6 times.



3 Place bar-coded labels on each tube, so that when the tube is standing upright, the barcode looks like a ladder.



Urine-Sample Collection

For each person, collect at least 25 mLs of urine in a screw-cap urine cup.



Label the urine cup with the appropriate bar-coded label as shown. Indicate how the sample was collected if method was other than "clean catch."

Freeze samples (optimally at -70°C).



Place bar-coded labels on all cups so that when the cup is standing upright, the barcode looks like a ladder.